

Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-11 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

AGR-05 IGA-02 SS-15 AID-05 H-02 SCA-01 PA-01 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2386

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR MX

SUBJECT: MEXICAN AG'S REMARKS TO PRESS CONCERNING US ASSISTANCE
TO GOM NARCOTICS PROGRAM

REF: MEXICO 365

1. IN A WIDELY REPORTED PRESS CONFERENCE, MEXICAN ATTORNEY
GENERAL PEDRO OJEDA PAULLADA SAID JAN 12 THAT ASSISTANCE WHICH
US GIVES TO MEXICAN ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAM IS NOT CONDITIONAL
ON ANY ACTION ON PART OF GOM AND THAT GOM CAN DISPENSE WITH
THIS HELP AT ANY TIME, WITHOUT ENDANGERING EFFECTIVENESS OF
PROGRAM.

2. IN COURSE OF PRESS INTERVIEW CONCERNING CREATION OF PAR-
ALLEL US-GOM COMMISSIONS TO COMBAT DRUGS, (REFTEL) OJEDA
CONTINUED THAT US TRAINING OF MEXICAN NARCOTICS AGENTS HAS
DIMINSHED GREATLY SINCE AG'S TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED.
ACCORDING TO OJEDA, TRAINING PROGRAM AT INSTITUTE IS SUCH
THAT, "...WE (GOM) DO NOT NEED NORTH AMERICAN ASSISTANCE." BOTH
FRENCH POLICE AND SCOTLAND YARD HAVE HELPED WITH INSTITUTE
TRAINING COURSES, HE REPORTED.

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3. OJEDA STATED THAT US ASSISTANCE RECEIVED IN FORM OF

EQUIPMENT IS SOMEWHAT A SYMBOL OF COLLABORATION, BUT WENT ON TO SAY THAT" "BY ACCEPTING THIS COLLABORATION, WE (GOM) ONLY WISH TO SHOW OUR GOOD WILL."

4. OJEDA REPEATED EARLIER STATEMENTS THAT NO SUBSTANCES THAT MIGHT ENDANGER ECOLOGY WOULD BE USED IN ERADICATING DURGS. HE SAID ESTIMATED 20,000 DRUG PLANTATIONS WOULD BE DESTROYED IN,"...80 OR 90 DAYS."

5. REGARDING TWIN COMMISSIONS OJEDA SAID THEY WOULD CONCERN THENSELVES NOT ONLY WITH ERADICATION ASPECTS OF DRUG PROGRAM BUT ALSO WITH NEED TO PREVENT INCIDENCE OF DRUG USE. HE ADDED THAT COMMISSIONS WILL PLACE SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON EDUCATING YOUTH TO DANGERS OF DRUGS.

6. COMMENT: OJEDA'S COMMENTS FIT A PAST PATTERN OF GOM RELUCTANCE TO ATTRIBUTE ANY MORE THAN SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE TO OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOM DRUG EFFORT. WHILE ANNOYING, WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT SUCH A POSTURE IS CONSIDERED A POLITICAL NECESSITY HERE.
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